

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 04993 121157Z

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SUBJECT: USDA OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED BY OSLO DAILY

NORWAY'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER, AFTENPOSTEN, CARRIES INTERVIEW NOVEMBER 11, DATELINED ROME, WITH DR. DONALD PEARLBURG, IDENTIFIED AS ECONOMIC ADVISOR IN USDA WHO IN ROME FOR WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

STORY'S LEAD SAYS "THE BIGGEST MEAT-EATING NATION IN THE WORLD, THE USA, MUST ALREADY TIGHTEN ITS BELT", BECAUSE OF A SHORTAGE OF FEED GRAIN CAUSED BY POOR HARVESTS. BUT IT THEN GOES INTO MORE SOBER REPORTING OF WHAT DR. PEARLBURG SAID.

AMONG POINTS MADE WERE THAT DESPITE TWO BAD HARVESTS, THE U.S. STILL HAS THE CAPACITY TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR FOOD AT HOME, TO CONTINUE COMMERCIAL EXPORTS, AND DO ITS SHARE IN CONTRIBUTING TO THOSE NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD THAT NEED FOOD THE MOST.

ACCORDING TO THE STORY, DR. PEARLBURG SAID THAT THE DIVERSION OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF GRAIN TO OTHER COUNTRIES NECESSARILY WILL AFFECT THE AMERICAN
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PAGE 02 OSLO 04993 121157Z

FOOD MARKET. A SHORTAGE OF FEED GRAIN WILL LEAD TO

REDUCED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, WHICH IN TURN WILL
LEAD TO A REDUCTION IN COMMODITIES SUCH AS MILK,
MEAT AND EGGS. CONSUMER HABITS WILL BE INFLUENCED,
HE SAID, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT NUTRITION
STANDARDS IN THE U.S. WILL DECREASE.
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